

The Romulus News

JANUARY 20, 1995 – FEBRUARY 1, 1995

"the little paper"

VOLUME 8 NUMBER 13

Study Session Addressed Possible Financial Woes



Treasurer James Napiorkowski

any financial problems that the City may be experiencing (or, indeed, whether there are financial problems at all; at her annual "State of the City" address to the Romulus Chamber of Commerce on January 17, Mayor Beverly McAnally claimed that, contrary to what's been printed in local newspapers, the City's financial shape is fine). Among the Treasurer's strongest critics is City Councilman Noah "Pete" Bergeron, who is also a self-employed finance specialist. Explaining that cities must always plan to keep funds available to protect against unexpected expenditures or other problems which can affect cash flow, Bergeron told *The Romulus News* that, in general, such long-term investments are not the most appropriate type for municipalities. "If we had so much money that we could afford to invest it for 20-year periods, it would be time to roll back the amount of tax that our city is levying," said Bergeron.

Others see the bond sale as only a part of a larger overall problem. Councilman Jimmie C. Raspberry believes that the City is, indeed, in financial trouble, and attributes the lion's share of the problem to wasteful spending. Of prime concern to Raspberry is the fact that the City has already spent about \$340,000 in its continuing litigation against Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS). "Despite the almost certain knowledge that EDS is prepared to continue its legal battle for years, if necessary, to win permission to operate its well here in Romulus, the majority of my colleagues on City Council voted last month to discontinue our settlement negotiations with EDS' attorneys. Considering the fact that we can't even afford to keep our roads repaired, I cannot justify continuing to throw away our hard-earned tax dollars on a project that benefits no one but the lawyers."

The viewpoints of the various officials involved in and concerned with the City's financial health have led to several suggestions for improvements in procedures. One such suggestion, which comes from Councilman Bergeron, is that Treasurer Napiorkowski make more of an effort to consult with the City's finance department to gain insight into the City's needs before making his investment decisions.

Dolores Witzgall—who, as co-chairperson of VOTES (Voice of Taxpayers for Efficient Spending), has an obvious

interest in the City's financial state—agrees with Bergeron that better communication is necessary, but stresses that both sides need to make the effort: "It's clear that Mr. Napiorkowski has to know what the City's plans are before he can make sensible investment decisions, but he shouldn't have to be the only one making an effort to share information. A perfect example of the administration's failure to communicate the City's needs to him can be readily seen with just one quick look at the budget which was proposed for the 1994–1995 fiscal year. Not one penny was allocated for litigation costs against EDS, yet it's obvious that both the Mayor and the majority of the City Council members planned to continue the fight against EDS. Mr. Napiorkowski can hardly make beneficial decisions when handicapped by such blatant misinformation.

"Everyone—including the Treasurer and the administration—needs to remember that the money in question here belongs to the citizens, not the officials," Witzgall continued, "and that they are responsible to us to do the best



Councilman Pete Bergeron

job that they can. That means improving honest, open communication and putting an end to political games which end up costing *everyone* dearly." □

By Kristi Stephens

Concerns that the City may face financial difficulties as early as March of this year surfaced again at a public study session held in the Romulus City Council chambers prior to the January 9, 1995 regular Council meeting.

The study session had been called following a loss of approximately \$52,000 in City revenues due to the sale of \$200,000 in "strip bonds" that had not yet matured. City Treasurer James Napiorkowski was criticized for tying up too much of the City's funds in long-term investments, but Napiorkowski defended his investments, saying that they are typical of other municipalities' practices, and that the premature sale would not have been necessary had not a concatenation of events led to a totally unexpected cash-flow problem. Chief among these events, said Napiorkowski, was a delay in mailing the City's tax bills last March.

"The passage of Proposal A last year meant major last-minute changes in everyone's tax bills," the Treasurer explained, "and the City was approximately three weeks later than usual in getting them out. Being three weeks behind in your collections—especially when you're looking at factors such as a payroll of about \$400,000 during that period—can put you in a bind in a hurry."

There is some debate as to how much Napiorkowski's possibly unwise investments may have contributed to

An Egg-ceptional Event



Richard Kruse, Music Director for the Romulus Community Schools, found out that being a good teacher isn't always all that it's cracked up to be. That's because the always creative band director, attempting to motivate his students to work hard in a recent fund-raising effort, promised that anyone selling more than 30 items would have a chance to crack an egg over his head following the Christmas concert given on December 20 at the Middle School. Here, band assistant Christine Fortune breaks the first cackleberry; a total of 28 students got in on the fun. For more photos, see page 9.

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request if, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity. The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity. For more information on our policies regarding letters, call 941-3113.

Donors Thanked for Support of Fire Victims

On December 18, 1994, a fire occurred at the residence of the Andrea Davis family (consisting of Andrea and sons John Justin and William Braden) of Romulus. This fire destroyed all of the family's Christmas gifts as well as its personal belongings.

However, thanks to the generosity of the following people, a multitude of Christmas gifts, clothing, and money was presented to the family:

- Lieutenant Darrell Poe (acting Chief of the Romulus Police Department);
- the Romulus Police Department;
- the Police Officers Wives Bowling Team;

- Mrs. Dan Bales and the staff of Wick Elementary School;
- the parents of Wick Elementary School students;
- the Romulus Board of Education;
- Fresh Approach Food Store (Taylor, MI);
- the Romulus Fire Department;
- Belleville Moose Lodge #934; and
- Gary E. Carpenter, three-year trustee of Romulus VFW Post #9568 and Voice of Democracy chairman.

The officers and members of Romulus VFW Post #9568 take this opportunity to say "thank you."

Bill Wrijil, Quartermaster

Romulus Schools Retiree Says Thanks

On my retirement from the Romulus Schools, I want to thank all the wonderful people who thought about me, and who gave me so many surprises and gifts.

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Thanks a million.

Goldie Ferda □



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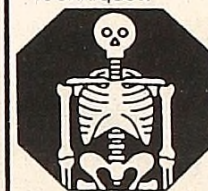
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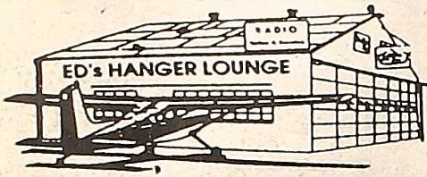
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Pitoniak Named to Committee Posts, Introduces Well Bills

State Representative Greg Pitoniak (D-Taylor) has received his committee assignments for the 88th Legislature, and has introduced new legislation concerning hazardous waste injection wells.

House Democratic Leader Curtis Hertel announced his appointment of Pitoniak as Minority Vice-chair of Transportation and as a member of the House Insurance Committee.

"I am very pleased with my committee assignments because they reflect the interests I have developed over the years," said Pitoniak. "I look forward to the challenges that I will face serving on them, and the challenges that the entire Michigan Legislature will serve as well."

"On the Transportation Committee, I will be working hard to bring to southeast Michigan the resources we need for our roads, bridges, air and water ports, and rail lines," he continued. "With the area's population increasing, we must see to it that our transportation system keeps up with the needs of people."

Pitoniak also welcomed his appointment to the House Insurance Committee. During the last legislative session, he served on the same committee while it debated such issues as auto-insurance reform.

"Because voters recently rejected the insurance industry's ballot proposal, I am sure we will be dealing with the issue once again," Pitoniak predicted. "I am hopeful that, this time, a bipartisan solution can be proposed and acted on."

With his committee assignments now complete, Pitoniak is now concentrating on introducing new legislation.

This week, he introduced two bills covering hazardous waste injection wells. One bill would prohibit the operation of commercial hazardous-waste injection wells in Michigan. The other piece of legislation would require background checks to be conducted on all persons who apply for a permit to drill or convert a well for the disposal of hazardous waste.

"I am facing the prospect of a hazardous-waste injection well being built and operated in my district," said Pitoniak, referring to a well which was constructed by Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS) in Romulus, but which has not yet begun operation due to a legal battle between EDS and the City of Romulus. "At the present time, there are no commercial hazardous-waste injection wells operating in Michigan, and State industries have not been having a hard time finding other means of disposing of such waste in a safe and efficient manner. Furthermore, the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) and EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)



Representative Greg Pitoniak

do not have adequate resources to properly monitor wells that may be built or the transportation of waste to them."

Pitoniak added that he will soon introduce companion bills that would:

- increase the amount of bonding required to operate, cap, or clean up an injection well;
- mandate site assessments to check for contamination on land being considered for deep-well injection;
- prohibit the construction of hazardous-waste injection wells near residential areas; and
- provide the Department of Natural Resources with jurisdiction over the transportation of waste to an injection-well site.

"Right now, there is no identified need for a commercial hazardous-waste injection well to serve industry," said Pitoniak. "We still have a responsibility, however, to minimize the risk to public safety and the environment by prohibiting such wells until there are guarantees for proper oversight and monitoring."

But many experts disagree with Pitoniak's assessment that there is no need for injection-well disposal of hazardous wastes. Ron Waybrant, manager of environmental compliance for the Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber engineering firm, sees several advantages to injection-well disposal.

"Industry's disposal of wastes is something I work with on a daily basis; it's my job to help our clients stay in compliance with the complex regulations involved with waste disposal. While it's true that waste generators do have alternatives to injection-well disposal,

continued on page 11



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January 20, 1995

Taxpayers of Romulus,

We are also a Romulus taxpayer. The City has assessed our injection well at \$1,000,000 and is billing us almost \$75,000 in taxes per year. This amount will increase substantially as we add the additional items to our project, such as the office building, etc.

This last summer the Judge ruled, in a preliminary decision, that our case cannot go to trial until we first go to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Currently, we are before the Zoning Board of Appeals and are attempting to comply with the Judge's order, but it is very difficult because the City has hired three lawyers to oppose our attempts. This has never happened before in Romulus' history.

On November 10, 1994 we were advised by the City's lawyers that the City Council and Mayor McAnally had directed them to negotiate a settlement with us.

On November 18, 1994, we submitted a detailed settlement proposal to the City's lawyers and requested that they give copies to the members of the City Council. Our proposal addressed the concerns which had been expressed by the Councilmembers and the Mayor.

We question whether the City's lawyers actually gave copies of our proposal to their client, all of the members of the City Council.

On December 22, 1994 our lawyer wrote to the City's lawyers and expressed frustration claiming the City's lawyers were dragging their feet.

On December 27, 1994 we were advised by the City's lawyers that the City Council had broken off negotiations.

The ZBA hearings will probably not be finished until late March and this case probably won't go to trial until late this year. In the mean time, the lawyers continue on both sides to bill their clients, month after month after month.

Our injection well is safe. Despite all the lies and misinformation given to some of you by the rabble rousers, our well has the full approval of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The federal and state laws that govern our well's operation are strictly enforced. The penalties for breaking these laws are severe.

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Exposing the truth about just how deadly heart disease can be for women is the goal of the fifth annual Turning Points Conference, "The Truth About Heart Disease in Women," which will be held Saturday, February 11, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Dearborn Inn.

The keynote speaker for the conference will be Dr. Lori Mosca, director of the Preventive Cardiology Program at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is a graduate of the Columbia School of Public Health, New York, New York, and a member of the American Heart Association and the American Medical Women's Association, as well as Chairperson for a task force on Women's Issues in Epidemiological Research. Dr. Mosca also has an extensive teaching background in the field of preventive cardiology.

Conference attendees will have the opportunity to choose two workshops from a list of four informative sessions including "Straight Talk with

a Cardiologist," "Exercise: a Key to a Healthy Heart," "Medical Advances in Treating Women's Heart Disease," and "Creative Cooking for the Healthy Heart."

This conference is vital for anyone concerned about how heart disease affects women. For more information, call (313) 593-7401. Cost of the program is \$20 and includes an information packet, continental breakfast, lunch, and two workshops.

This conference is presented by a committee of community leaders and Oakwood Healthcare System medical professionals.

The Oakwood Healthcare System is one of the leading healthcare systems in southeastern Michigan. It consists of seven hospitals, 30 specialty and health centers, and more than 1,100 physicians. □



Mentor Program To Begin at Romulus High School

By Debbie Dick

Romulus High School is starting a mentor program geared toward students in the Class of 1997. The purpose of the program is to reach those students who will need extra effort and support to pass the proficiency test that will be given next year. The goal is to get every Class of '97 student to pass this test. The State-required test must be passed to receive an endorsed diploma.

A mentor will not be asked to tutor the student, but to be supportive of the student, by calling him/her to check on school work and maybe transporting him/her back and forth to tutoring, the

library, or any other resource the student might need to help in understanding school work. We are hoping to get this program underway during the early part of the second semester.

A meeting to discuss the mentor program will be held on Monday, January 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the Romulus High School media center.

If anyone is interested in becoming a mentor or if you have any questions, please contact a parent coordinator at Romulus High School (941-2170, ext. 184) or Mr. Dolan (941-2170, ext. 140).

The students need your help! Volunteer to become a mentor! □

Good Food a Good Part of the Traditional Chinese New Year



Observation of the Chinese New Year is a treasured custom for Peter and Anne Choi, owners of Metro Panda Garden restaurant.

"Kung hay fat choy," say Peter and Anne Choi, owners of Metro Panda Garden restaurant, located at the corner of Middlebelt and Beverly roads in Romulus.

That, according to Peter, is how you say "Happy New Year" in Chinese.

A belated holiday wish? Not at all, since the Chinese celebrate the beginning of a new year according to the old Chinese calendar, in which a new year begins on the day of the second new moon after the winter solstice. Figuring the new year according to this practice means that the date varies from year to year, but always falls between January 21 and February 19. This year of 1995 — the Year of the Boar, according to the Chinese "zodiac" — begins on January 31, and celebration of the holiday continues through February 14.

Celebration of the Chinese New Year holiday, which in some respects resembles our Thanksgiving and is the most important holiday of the year to the Chinese, can involve a great deal of ceremony for those who stick to more traditional observations. Many of the traditions relate to the bringing of good luck and prosperity to the household, and involve such practices as smearing honey on the lips of the "kitchen god," whose picture adorns most households, so that he will report only good things about the family when he moves on to heaven (which happens when his picture is burned and a new one, representing a new god, is hung to begin the new year), settling all old debts and

obligations so that the year may be started with a "clean slate"; and burning candles and incense in front of tablets bearing ancestors' names in order to pay homage to the ancestors' spirits. Still another "good luck" tradition involves children kneeling down before their parents, presenting them with a cup of tea, and expressing their wishes for health and wealth. The parents reciprocate by giving "red packets" (lucky money) to the children and wishing them health and success in school.

One of the most well-known aspects of the holiday is a spectacular parade featuring firecrackers popping, colorful floats, ornate costumes, and a long dragon whose writing movements twist in and out of the crowd as flames and smoke emanate from its nostrils.

Food is also an important part of the holiday, as well, and it's not surprising that chefs of Peter's fine caliber make the most of it. Although many traditionalists avoid dishes with meat on the first day of the new year, they break their meat fast on the second day, and everyone enjoys delicious dishes featuring fresh chicken, fish, and vegetables.

Peter and Anne, along with their two sons, invite those who enjoy Oriental cuisine to celebrate the Chinese New Year by indulging their taste for Eastern fare. Seek out recipes for some traditional Chinese cooking, or stop in at the Metro Panda Garden, where chef Peter will be happy to serve you a variety of delicious dishes, all prepared in the traditional Chinese fashion. □

Community Calendar

- **Fish Dinner** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church is holding a fish dinner "fund-raiser" at the Church (corner of Ellis and Craig Street, one block east of First of America Bank, New Boston) on Friday, January 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. The all-you-can-eat meal will include deep-fried fish & French-fried potatoes/baked fish & scalloped potatoes, cole slaw, roll, salads, dessert, & drink. Tickets are \$6 for adults; \$4 for children ages five to 11.
- **Classes in Systematic Training for Effective Parenting** – Mrs. Mary Wright, MS/CSW – a Family & Neighborhood Services social worker – will be conducting a free, six-week session of "Systematic Training for Effective Parenting" classes at Westland's Dorcey Center (32715 Dorsey) beginning January 23. Classes will be held Mondays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Coffee provided. For more information, or to register, please call 326-4262.
- **Cabaret le Femme** – The Huron Civic Theatre will present *Cabaret le Femme*, an all-female musical review to be performed in a unique and intimate cabaret setting, on the weekends of January 28–29 and February 4–5 (Saturday curtains are at 8 p.m., while Sunday matinees begin at 3 p.m.). All tickets are \$5. For more information, call the Huron Civic Auditorium (32044 Huron River Drive, New Boston) at 782-5380 or 654-0167.
- **A Chorus Line Auditions** – The Huron Civic Theatre will hold auditions for its early-May production of *A Chorus Line* at the Theatre (32044 Huron River Drive, New Boston) on Friday, February 3, from 7 to 10 p.m., and on Sunday, February 5, from 1 to 5 p.m. and 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Roles are available for both men and women. Those auditioning should come prepared to sing a song from the show; a dance routine will be taught at the auditorium. Parts are also available for a nondancing backstage chorus. For more information, please call 782-5380 or 654-0167.
- **Winter Recreation Programs** – The Wayne County Park System has plenty of outdoor winter recreation activities for people of all ages. There's no reason to catch "cabin fever" – just bundle up and join in the fun! Among the programs offered are one-session lessons (\$13 with rental equipment; \$7 with own equipment) on cross-country skiing at Warren Valley Golf Course (26116 W. Warren Rd., Dearborn Heights), conducted (weather permitting) from 1 to 2:30 p.m. each Saturday through February 18; ice-skating (weather permitting) at the Wilcox Lake area of the Middle Rouge Parkway and Elizabeth Park (Trenton); and cross-country skiing (weather permitting) on groomed trails at Warren Valley Golf Course (\$7 ski rental; \$2 trail fee) and Elizabeth Park (no trail fee or ski rental). For more information, call 313-261-1990.
- **Self-esteem Group Now Forming** – Men and women are invited to participate in "Improving Self-esteem," a currently forming group which will meet for two-hour weekly sessions over a period of 14 weeks. Time and location of meetings has yet to be determined. For more information, call Ellen Campbell, MSW, at Family & Neighborhood Services (782-9800).
- **Little League Board Meetings** – The 1995 Romulus Little League Board of Directors invites the public to attend its board meetings, which will be held at the Romulus Recreation building on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24. For more information, please call either Cathy (941-7612) or Julie (941-6797).

To place information in the Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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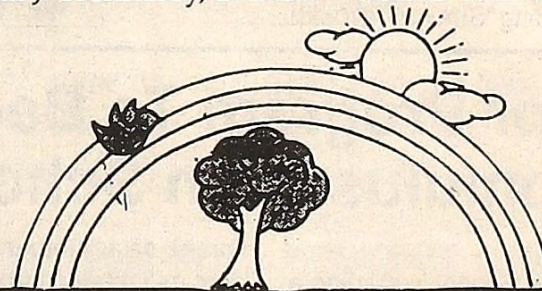
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New Patients Welcome

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36766 Goddard Road
955-1166 or 955-6911

Huge Cooper Tire Sale!
January 23 through February 20

— We Also Do Minor Repairs —

WANTED

Romulus Rec. Dept. is looking for coaches/supervisors for its Saturday basketball program (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Some basketball knowledge required. To apply, call the City Personnel Office at 942-7512.

FOR RENT

1250-square-foot building features a complete alarm system and plenty of parking. Located in downtown Romulus at 36724 Goddard. For more information, please contact Ron Bruggar at 941-1727.

Recording Studio

B.J. West Enterprises

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- 8 TRACK ANALOG •
- MIDI RECORDING •

26691 Northeastern
Madison Heights, MI 48071
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DON'T PUT AWAY THE GOLF CLUBS! GOLF YEAR-AROUND
HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY MONDAY! 722-5560

DOUBLE BOGIE

LOUNGE

BIG SCREEN TV **OPEN SUNDAY**

6221 Middlebelt Road • 1/2 Mile South of Van Born
Open 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. - Mon. through Sat. • 12 to 12 - Sun.

The "**Friendliest**" Bar in the Area!

Karaoke!
Friday & Saturday
9 p.m. - ???

It's Ba-ack!
Big-Screen
Red Wing Hockey!
Don't Miss It!

Some Thoughts on Values and the Delinquent Child

By Jacque Martin-Downs, MA, MSW

While sifting through the various and sundry pieces of literature that pass over my desk, I came upon a snappy little pamphlet entitled, "Twelve Rules for Raising Delinquent Children" by Chuck Swindoll. This tongue-in-cheek exposé takes a hard look at the things we as parents forget or neglect to teach our children about becoming a responsible adult.

The 12 rules:

- Begin with infancy to give the child everything he wants. This way, he will grow up to believe that the world owes him a living.
- When he picks up bad words, laugh at him. This will make him think that he's cute.
- Never give him any spiritual training. Wait until he is 21 and then let him decide for himself.
- Avoid the use of the word "wrong." He may develop a guilt complex. This will condition him to believe, when arrested for stealing a car, that society is against him and he is being persecuted.
- Pick up everything he leaves lying around. Do everything for him so that he will be experienced in throwing all responsibility on others.
- Let him read any printed matter he can get his hands on. Be careful that the silverware and drinking glasses are sterilized but let his mind feast on garbage.
- Quarrel frequently in the presence of your child. In this way, he won't be so shocked when the home is broken up later.
- Give a child all the spending money he wants. Never let him earn his own.
- Satisfy his every craving for food, drink, and comfort. See that his every sensual desire is gratified.
- Take his part against neighbors, teachers, and policemen. They are all prejudiced against your child.
- When he gets into real trouble, apologize for yourself by saying "I could never do anything with him."
- Prepare for a lifetime of grief. You will be likely to have it.

While Swindoll exaggerates characteristics that will get parents into trouble, tinges of guilt may surface for many who realize that they are creating a potentially troubling and troubled child.

Our kids have come to expect that we will provide them with everything they request. In our Young Mothers' Assistance Program (created to match pregnant teens with volunteer mentors), we've noticed a disturbing trend among the girls, which suggests that if you become pregnant, simply call any number of social service agencies and all of

your financial and baby needs will be taken care of. When asked how a young woman was going to support herself and her baby, one said, "No problem, I'll just go on welfare."

And then there is the issue of setting limits and expectations for our children. By not clearly defining right from wrong, we don't use windows of opportunity to teach our children our value system. In one of our community support groups for kids, we asked them if they knew what the word 'value' meant . . . as in what values are important in your family. The only value that this group could come up with was "money."

Money? Are our values now centered solely around money? To where did the values of honesty, hard work, virtuosity, kindness, responsibility, independence, resourcefulness, accountability, self-discipline, dependability, empathy, humility, thriftiness, consistency, respectfulness, etc., disappear? Have we created a generation of youngsters who are empty vessels; a vessel waiting to be filled with the values surrounding them?

Clearly, these empty vessels will be filled. We've never seen one completely empty. But are the values of disrespect, unkindness, non-accountability, irresponsibility, inconsistency, laziness, harshness, dishonesty, etc., those with which you would like your child to step into adulthood? Those are the very same values that are the hallmark of gangs and those who "hang with" drug and alcohol users.

Our children will fill their vessel with values . . . which values they pick up depends on us.

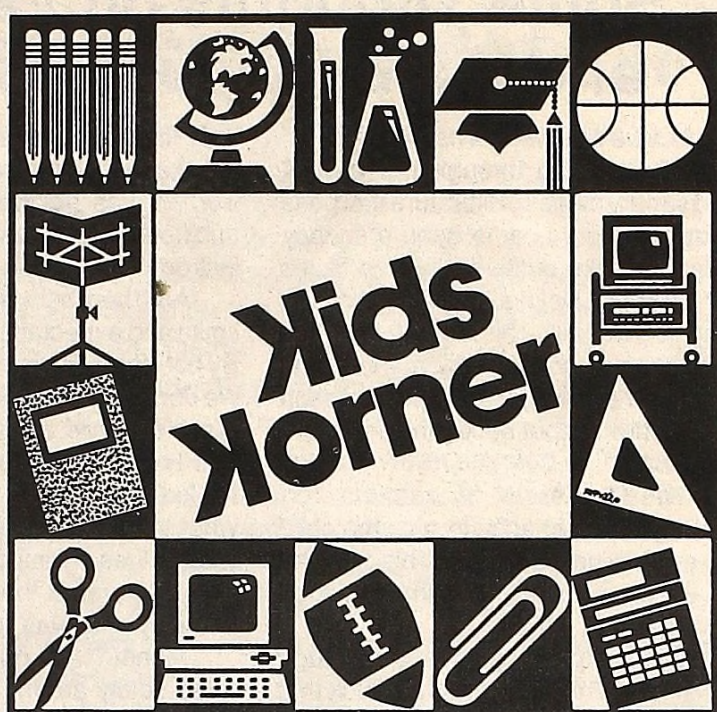
WOW, we have an enormous task before us. Who said having children was going to be easy?!

Editor's note: Jacque Martin-Downs' work is funded by SEMSAS of DCC. □

Meetings To Air Soon

Marvin Scanlon, chairperson of the Romulus Cable Commission, reports that broadcast of the Romulus City Council meetings could resume as early as the first of February, now that meetings are again held at City Hall. "Special cable is currently being installed, and our camera, which has been sent out for calibration and general maintenance, should be back within a week," he stated.

Scanlon also apologized for the interruption of meeting broadcasts, saying that the Commission did not want to air programs from the 34th District Court because of poor visual and audio quality. □



FAIRY TALE FUN

TAKE THE WRONG LETTERS FROM THE TEN TITLES AND PUT THEM INTO THE SQUARES BELOW, THEN RE-ARRANGE THEM TO FIND A WELL-KNOWN FAIRY TALE PERSON.

1 PETER RAN	2 THE UGLY DUCKLINE	3 ROBINSON CRUSOL
4 RID RIDING HOOD	5 SINBAD THE NAILOR	6 LITTLE JACK CORNER
7 DICK WHITTINGTOE	8 JACK AND THE BEANSTALL	
9 BABES IN THE WOAD	10 THE PIED PIPED	

THE PERSON IS CINDERELLA. -REMSNS

A brief history of money

Although you often see mom and dad paying with credit cards, you still see them using one of the oldest methods of payment, the exchange of paper and coins.

You may ask yourself: Who used the first coins? Coins were first issued by King Gyges of Lydia (Turkey) and the idea spread through tradesmen around the Mediterranean.

Lydian coins were made from small lumps of metal which were a mixture of gold and silver. On one side they were stamped with the badge of the king.

The Chinese issued the first paper money in the 6th century A.D..

The first credit cards came into being during the 1920's when they were issued by American oil companies for buying gasoline.

Whale watch

Whales have been around for millions of years. They are aquatic mammals and they evolved from land mammals; their nearest relatives are hoofed mammals.

Instead of hair, whales have a thick layer of blubber beneath their skins to keep them warm in cold waters.

The whale's "nostrils" are on top of his head, where they form a blow-hole. After a dive, a whale spouts to expel the used air from its lungs before taking another breath.

Because the water supports their weight, whales can grow far larger than any living land animal. But the largest whales eat only tiny creatures about 5cm long, called krill.

Saving the whales

But why are whales so special? And why would anyone want to spend time and money trying to save them?

Whales are extremely intelligent. They may be even smarter than we are! And whales communicate with each other in a language that we are just beginning to understand.

Whales are hunted

For hundreds of years, whales have been killed for their blubber, the layer of fat underneath the skin which provides oil, or in the case of the sperm whale, the large reserve of oil in the head, which is used for making candles, margarine and soap.

Ambergris, an oil used in the manufacture of perfume, also comes from the intestines of whales.

The number of whales which may be killed in a season is limited by international agreement but whales are disappearing, making it important for groups like Greenpeace to pressure countries into saving them.

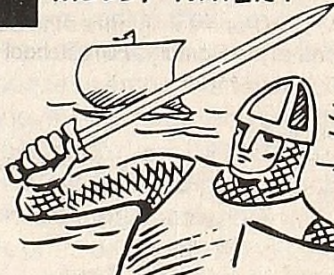
DID YOU KNOW?

by AL

366

IN 1066 WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR INVADDED ENGLAND FROM FRANCE AND IT IS FROM THAT DATE THAT THE CHANNEL ISLANDS HAVE BELONGED TO BRITAIN.

CATFISH HAVE BARBELS AROUND THEIR MOUTHS LIKE A CAT'S WHISKERS. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THEY HELP THEM TO DETECT FOOD IN VERY MUDDY WATER.



IT IS BELIEVED THAT IN ANCIENT TIMES BOTH GREEKS AND EGYPTIANS HAD PICTURES OF PEOPLE'S FACES ON THE SOLES OF THEIR SHOES. THE GREEKS' WERE OF PEOPLE THEY LIKED BUT THE EGYPTIANS HAD THEIR ENEMIES' FACES ON THEM WHICH THEY COULD THEN TREAD INTO THE GROUND!



Kruse wasn't the only one wearing egg before it was done and over with! When Brad Bowman, an eighth-grade saxophonist, tried to break his egg, his "technique" backfired, and the yolk was on him!



By the time all 28 students had done their worst, Kruse had so much egg on his face that he couldn't see a thing. It was an egg-citing episode for the students – and an egg-scrutiating one for Kruse!

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 1994

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, December 12, 1994 was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Vice President Debra A. Hoffman.

Roll call showed President Sandra F. Langley absent (excused). All Administrators were present. Mrs. Langley entered the meeting at 7:48 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Debra A. Hoffman.

Student Hearing

12/94/1 Moved by Gondek supported by Oleszkowicz to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of a private student hearing. Roll call showed: Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 7:31 P.M. and reconvened in Regular Session at 8:10 P.M.

12/94/2 Moved by Patterson supported by Kesner to adopt a Resolution which accepts the recommendation of the Hearing Panel to suspend Joshua Arseneault from attendance of the first semester of the 1994-95 school year with eligibility for re-enrollment commencing with the second semester of the same school year effective January 30, 1995. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda:

12/94/3 Moved by Gondek supported by Oleszkowicz to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting:

12/94/4 Moved by Oleszkowicz supported by Berlinn to approve the Minutes of November 28, 1994 as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Communications and Expressions from the Public:

There were none.

Report of the Superintendent:

Personnel Actions

12/94/5 Moved by Oleszkowicz supported by Patterson to approve the Resolution and retirement of Goldie Ferda, Delivery Person, effective December 31, 1994 as recommended by Dr. Terrel M. LeCesne, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

12/94/6 Moved by Patterson supported by Gondek to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Re-Adoption of 1994-95 Budget

12/94/7 Moved by Patterson supported by Oleszkowicz to amend the 1994-95 budget with revenues of \$30,409,240 and expenses of \$29,441,231. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Report on Drug-free Schools – Siders/Conway

Mr. Claude Siders and Ms. Kate Conway updated the Board of Education on the implementation of several educational programs with the students, staff, and parents as they relate to a drug-free environment. They responded to questions asked by the Board.

Adoption of Drug Testing Policy

12/94/8 Moved by Gondek supported by Hoffman to adopt drug testing policies for transportation employees as recommended by the Policy Committee and legal counsel. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Sexual Harassment Policy Adoption

12/94/9 Moved by Patterson supported by Kesner to adopt Discriminatory Harass-

ment of Employees and Students as recommended by Policy Committee and legal counsel. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board recessed at 9:09 P.M. and reconvened in Regular Session at 9:20 P.M.

MEAP Test Report

The MEAP Test Report was postponed to the meeting of January 9, 1995.

Homecoming Change

The Board of Education requested that Dr. Bedell, Superintendent, meet with the High School staff to attain a solution to the proposed Homecoming changes.

Approval of Barth Elementary Field Trip to Chicago, Illinois

12/94/10 Moved by Kesner supported by Patterson to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the field trip for Ms. Fraley's sixth-grade class to go to Chicago, Illinois on May 11 and 12, 1995. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Approval of High School Field Trip to Orlando, Florida

12/94/11 Moved by Oleszkowicz supported by Patterson to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the field trip for the Advanced U.S. History Class to go to Orlando, Florida on March 22-26, 1995. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

The following items of interest were presented to the Board of Education for their perusal: 1) Policy Committee Minutes; 2) Finance Minutes; 3) Memo – \$45,000 Grant; 4) Paw Paw "Thank you"; 5) Mega League Update; 6) Music Department Report, and 7) "Thanks" from Pennsylvania.

Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

Mrs. Judie Gondek expressed concern about the technology at the Middle and Elementary Schools. Mr. McPharlin responded to her questions.

Mr. Pat Patterson stated that a report should be generated to reflect everyone who attends conferences.

Mrs. Debra Hoffman alluded to the hearing relative to the dump behind Wick School.

Mr. Kenneth E. Berlinn asked Dr. Bedell, Superintendent, what the status was of legislative financing for Charter Schools. Dr. Bedell responded to his questions.

Mrs. Julie Oleszkowicz discussed the fluctuation of temperature in the classrooms at the High School. Mr. Carr responded.

Mrs. Debra Hoffman asked Mr. Carr how many inquiries we have had regarding the enhancement millage.

Mrs. Sandra F. Langley, President, appointed the following members of the Board of Education to be representatives for the Foundation: Mrs. Julie A. Oleszkowicz – Board Representative; Mr. Howard J. Kesner – Board Alternate.

Mr. Pat Patterson informed the Board of Education that his son, Thom, would be student teaching at the Romulus High School beginning in January, 1995.

Executive Session

None needed.

Adjournment:

12/94/12 Moved by Kesner supported by Patterson that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth E. Berlinn, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Marilyn Hoffer, Senior Citizens Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Barbara Schultz, Romulus Senior Center staff member, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

Tax Service To Begin In February

Beginning February 1, volunteers will be available (by appointment only) at the Romulus Senior Center (located at 36515 Bibbins) each Wednesday from 1 to 4 p.m. to assist low- and moderate-income Romulus senior citizens with the preparation of their Federal and State 1040, home heating, prescription, and property-tax forms. A list of those materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration. Call 942-6852 for more information.

Free Blood-pressure Screening

Romulus seniors can have their blood pressure checked by Community Emergency Medical Service (CEMS), free of charge, at the Romulus Senior Center on Monday, February 6, from 1 to 2 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

Attention: Walkers!

The Romulus Senior Center continues to transport interested senior citizens to Wayne County Community College's Haggerty Road campus for an indoor, move-at-your-own pace walk program. Transportation for participants in these free Wednesday-morning sessions departs from the Center at 9 a.m. and returns at 10:30 a.m.

Shopping

For a transportation fee of just \$1.50, Romulus seniors can ride the Center's van to Westland Mall on Friday, January 27, and/or to Southland Mall on Friday, February 3, to shop till they drop! Space is limited; seats are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis with sign-up (at the Center) and payment of the transportation fee.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other trips planned by the Romulus Senior Center may contact Marilyn Hoffer at 942-6852.

- **Gambling "Up North"**—A few seats remain for this trip to the casinos of Sault Ste. Marie—a perfect winter getaway for seniors because hotel rooms, food, and entertainment are all under one roof! The \$119 cost (based on double-occupancy rates) of the two-day/one-night outing, which departs on January 26, includes transportation, lodging, \$20 in quarters, \$10 in blackjack chips,

one pull tab, two free drinks, and a 10% discount at the restaurant.

- **Gulf Coast**—Discover Biloxi, Mississippi, and New Orleans, Louisiana, on this seven-day excursion to the Gulf Coast. The \$549 cost of the trip (based on double-occupancy rates), which departs March 12, includes transportation; six nights' accommodations; nine meals; a guided tour of New Orleans (including the French Quarter, above-ground cemeteries, Garden District, and Superdome); a guided tour of Mississippi's Gulf Coast (including the Walter Anderson Museum of Art); three nights of casino gambling; admission to Beauvoir, the seaside estate of Jefferson Davis; a tour of Stennis Space Center; and more!
- **Gambling on the Mississippi**—Enjoy casino gambling riverboat-style! The \$159 cost (based on double-occupancy rates) of this three-day trip, which departs March 13, includes transportation; two nights' lodging; lunch, dinner, and gambling on the *Mississippi Belle II*; dinner and gambling on Jumer's Casino Rock Island; and more.

Personal Transportation Service

The Romulus Senior Center's personal transportation program, designed to assist senior citizens who have no other vehicle available to them, will continue this year. For a fee of \$1, seniors can arrange to be taken anywhere within the City limits in order to conduct personal affairs such as doctor appointments, banking, or shopping, and then be returned to their home. In addition, the program encourages seniors to stop off at the Senior Center to participate in the Wayne County Nutritional Services Hot Lunch program. The service is available on Thursdays between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. only, so anyone wishing to take advantage of the program should call and reserve their desired time slot as far in advance as possible. For more information, call Barbara Schultz (942-6852).

Weekly Programs

The Romulus Senior Center has a full schedule of weekly programs for senior citizens' enjoyment. Come in on your own or bring a friend for ceramics (Mondays at 1 and 6 p.m.); Club #1 meetings (Tuesdays at 11 a.m.); pinochle (Tuesdays at 1 p.m.); BINGO (Wednesdays at 1 p.m.); knitting, crocheting, and canvas needlepoint (Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.); euchre (Thursdays at 1 p.m.); and/or quilting (Thursdays at 7 p.m.). □

— CHURCH DIRECTORY —

ASSEMBLY OF GOD—36572 Goddard / 941-4014 / Rev. James R. O'Guin, Pastor / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—6:30 p.m. / Tuesday Evening Service—7 p.m. / Thursday Youth Night—7 p.m.

BALL ROAD TABERNACLE—7007 Ball Rd. / 722-9638

BELLEVILLE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—11900 Belleville Rd. / Belleville / 697-8687 / Rev. Deborah Vanleuven Kerr, Pastor / Sunday School—9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. / Craft Circle—Thursday, 9:30 a.m. / Women's Association Meeting—2nd Tuesday of some months—7:30 p.m.

BETHANY APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH—34584 Beverly Rd. / 729-4240 / Elder Reginald Williams, Pastor / Sunday School—9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11:15 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—7:30 p.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH—30055 Ecorse Rd. / 728-1845

BETHANY CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH—35737 Vinewood / 326-0810 / Robert L. Gordon, Pastor / Sunday School—10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m.

BEVERLY HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH—34156 Beverly Rd. / 729-6440 / Dr. Lovell Wooden, Sr., Pastor / Sunday School—9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11:30 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—7:30 p.m. / Thursday Prayer Service—12 p.m. / Thursday Choir Rehearsal—6 p.m. / Thursday Bible Study—7:30 p.m. / Free Transportation—Call 729-6440

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH—11338 Ozga Rd. / 941-0236 / Marvin Hawbaker, Pastor / Sunday School—10 a.m. / Sunday Adult Bible Study—10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—6 p.m. / Wednesday Bible Study—7 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST—9426 S. Wayne Rd. / Office: 721-2585 / Phil Morr, Evangelist / Sunday Bible Study—10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—6 p.m. / Wednesday Evening Worship—7 p.m.

CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY—7201 Kempa St. / 729-2283

CHURCH OF GOD-ROMULUS—8770 S. Wayne Rd. / 729-4884 / Parsonage: 729-7234 / Rev. Douglas M. Bishop, Pastor / Sunday School—10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m. / Sunday Children's Church—11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—6:30 p.m. / Family Training Service—Wednesday, 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF OUR LORD JESUS MIRACLE TEMPLE—36949 Goddard / 941-6070

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH—6200 Fourth St. / 729-0630 / 419-727-0631 / Rev. Hiram McBurrowst, Pastor / Sunday School—9:30 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—6 p.m.

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH—11160 Olive St. / 941-3474 / Brad Lewis, Pastor / 941-0736 / Sunday School—9:30 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m.

FAITH HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH—Oakbrooke Villa Club House / 30251 Elm Street (1 Block South of Eureka) / Rev. Earl W. Ellison, Sr., Pastor / 941-4855 or 721-8489 / Sunday School—10:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11:30 a.m.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD—870 Savage Rd. / Belleville / 699-6700 / Kenneth W. Miller, Pastor / Sunday School—9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—6 p.m. / Wednesday Family Night—7 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH—11412 Delano St. / 941-0225

FRIENDSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH—19101 Inkster Rd. / Brownstown / 782-1220 / Sunday Morning Worship—10 a.m. / Adult Bible Study and Sunday School—11:30 a.m. / Nursery available / Active Drama Team

MARTIN TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST—6566 S. Wayne Rd. / 326-1270 / Elder Edward Thomas, Jr., Pastor / Sunday School—10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—12:00 p.m. / Sunday Evening Y.P.W.W.—6:30 p.m. / Prayer and Bible Study—Tuesday, 7 p.m. / Friday Worship Service—7 p.m.

MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH—35565 Beverly Rd. / 729-2460 / James Thompson, Pastor / 531-1285 / Sunday School—9:30 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m. / Wednesday Prayer Meeting—6:30 p.m. / Wednesday Bible Study—7 p.m.

PARKS MEMORIAL A.M.E.—11547 Grover St. / 941-0771 / Rev. Jeffery Baker, Pastor / Sunday School—9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m. / Wednesday Bible Study—6 p.m.

PENTECOSTAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH—35625 Vinewood St. / 728-1390 / Rev. Arthur C. Willis, Pastor / 548-5954 / Sunday School—10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11:30 a.m. / Wednesday Bible Study—6:30 p.m.

ROMULUS FREWILL BAPTIST CHURCH—9900 Tobine / 941-8810

ROMULUS WESLEYAN CHURCH—37300 Goddard Rd. (5 Points) / 941-1511 / Rev. Donald McClellan, Pastor / 941-4167 / Enrichment Hour—9:45 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—10:45 a.m. / Sunday Evening Celebration—6 p.m. / Family Night—Wednesday, 7 p.m.

SAINT ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH—11280 Ozga Rd. / 941-5056 / Daily Mass—9 a.m. / Weekend Masses: Saturday—6 p.m.; Sunday—8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12 p.m. / Holy Day Masses: Vigil Mass (evening prior to Holy Day)—7 p.m.; Holy Days—9 a.m., 12 p.m., 7 p.m. / Confession: Saturday—4:30–5 p.m.

SAINT CITY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST—7335 Washington / 595-0629 / Pastor: Elder James Lee Whitehead / Sunday School—9:30 p.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—10:45 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—7 p.m. / Sunday Evening Radio Broadcast on WMUZ-FM 103.5 at 7:30 p.m. / Tuesday Evening Bible Study & Youth Night—7 p.m. / Choir Rehearsal—Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. / Friday Evening Family Night—7 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH—19109 Craig (Post Office 274), New Boston / Robert Allmann, Pastor / Sunday School & Bible Class—9 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—10 a.m. / Wednesday Worship—7:30 p.m. / Attended Nursery

SALVATION ARMY—33750 Goddard Rd. / 941-5100

SECOND MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH—11242 Grover St. / 941-0330

STAR OF BETHLEHEM SPIRITUAL TEMPLE—35143 Beverly Rd. / 726-4777

UNION GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH—6312 Wayne Rd. / 721-5052

WAYNECOURSE CHURCH OF CHRIST—7066 Waynecourse / 722-0454 / Earl Truss, Minister / 326-0918 / James Motley, Associate Minister: 561-3108 / Sunday Bible School—10 a.m. / Sunday Morning Worship—11 a.m. / Sunday Evening Worship—6 p.m. / Wednesday Bible Study—7 p.m.

If you would like to have your church listed in the church directory (there is no charge), or, if you have changes or additions in church information, please send it to:

The Romulus News Church Directory
Post Office Box 74038 • Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Baby's Name _____
 Birthdate _____ Time _____
 Weight _____ Length _____
 Birthplace _____
 Parents _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Siblings _____

 Maternal Grandparents _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Paternal Grandparents _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions):

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Bride's Name _____
 City _____ State _____
 Groom's Name _____
 City _____ State _____
 Bride's Parents _____
 City _____ State _____
 Groom's Parents _____
 City _____ State _____
 Bridesmaids _____
 Groomsmen _____
 Date of Engagement _____
 Date of Wedding _____
 Place _____
 City _____ State _____
 Reception _____
 City _____ State _____
 Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions):

Attach any additional information
concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

The Stork Arrived

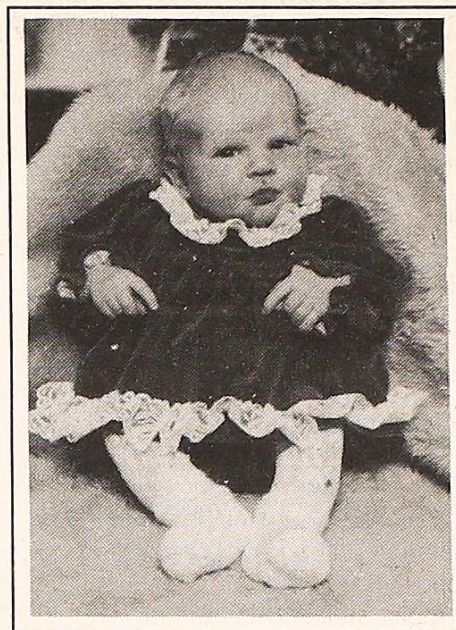
Rachel Marie Scibilia

Proudly announcing the birth of their first daughter, Rachel Marie Scibilia, are Marc and Jennifer (Smith) Scibilia of Woodhaven, Michigan.

Born in the University of Michigan's Women's Hospital at 6:42 a.m. on Monday, December 5, 1994, Rachel weighed in at eight pounds, 15 ounces, and measured 21 inches in length.

The new baby is the couple's third child, following Jason (deceased), who would have been three years old, and Matthew, age two.

Rachel's grandparents are Anthony and Catherine Scibilia and Billie and Deborah Smith (all of Romulus, MI); Armetha Smith (Westland, MI), Joseph and Joan Scibilia (Romulus, MI), and Hilda Murray (Waterford, MI) are her great-grandparents. Godparents are Matthew Scibilia (brother to Marc) and



Holly Scibilia (sister to Marc). □

WELL LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

continued from page 3

those alternatives are often not the most desirable. Frequently, disposal of hazardous liquid wastes involves treating the waste using various methods and then disposing of the residue in a landfill, or else solidifying the wastes and using landfill disposal.

"Both methods are costly, and both use a disposal method which deposits wastes above the water table," continued Waybrant, "and, while recent changes in government regulations have made landfill disposal in general much more safe, many experts prefer a method of disposal that puts toxins well below our sources of drinking water and separates the two with thousands of feet of impermeable rock.

"It's true," he continued, "that there have been occasional leakages from injection wells in the past, but those leaks occurred in wells constructed before today's much-more-stringent regulations were established. Again, experts agree that injection wells, when properly constructed, are a safe — even preferred — method of disposal."

In fact, even the EPA considers Class I injection wells to be "safer than virtually all other waste disposal practices," according to a 1989 study.

Waybrant also pointed out that, as laws designed to protect our drinking-water resources become more stringent, some of the disposal methods currently permitted today will no longer be an option for industry, which will have to seek out alternative means of disposal.

Finally, Waybrant drew attention to the fact that some of Pitoniak's suggestions for regulation are already in place.

For instance, site assessments to check for contamination of land being considered for injection wells is already required, and DNR jurisdiction of waste transportation is already established. "Possibly Representative Pitoniak has more stringent regulations in mind," said Waybrant, "and that may be fine; but his recent statement about his future legislation plans makes it sound as though no regulation currently exists, and nothing could be further from the truth."

Douglas Wicklund, owner and president of EDS, also took exception to Pitoniak's insinuations that injection-well disposal may not be safe.

"Our injection well in Romulus was constructed in 1993. All kinds of tests were run under the supervision of the EPA and DNR in order to determine if it would be a safe well, and the tests are conclusive. We look forward to commencing operations as soon as possible in order to serve the industries located in southeastern Michigan that generate liquid industrial waste."

In support of his assertions of safety, Wicklund cited an October 31, 1994 letter from the EPA's Region 5 office, which stated, in part, "... hazardous waste injection wells are the most highly regulated well classification under our program, and are considered the highest priority for regulation" and that "If this site [EDS well in Romulus] becomes operational, a UIC field inspector will inspect the site at least once every quarter, in addition to the annual tests that must be witnessed by either our field inspectors or members of the UIC staff, as well as unannounced inspections carried out periodically." □

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